



New York State Archives

**New York State Education Department Division of Archives
and History World War I Veterans' Service Data and
Photographs A0412**

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Overview of the Records

Repository:	New York State Archives
Summary:	This series contains personal information, service data, newspaper clippings, and photographs of New York State veterans of World War I. Some accounts of home front activities in the state are also included. The series contains a small amount of material documenting the manner in which the State Education Department, the state's schools, faculty, and students contributed to the war effort.
Creator:	New York (State). Education Department. Division of Archives and History
Title:	World War I veterans' service data and photographs
Quantity:	34.4 cubic feet
Inclusive Date:	1917-1939
Bulk Date:	1919-1924
Series:	A0412

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Arrangement

This series is arranged alphabetically by county, then alphabetically by municipality.

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Administrative History

These records were collected by State Historians James Sullivan and Alexander C. Flick (from 1923 on) in response to a joint resolution of the New York State Senate and Assembly to "collect, collate, compile, edit, and prepare for publication sufficient material, statistics, and data for a history of the State of New York in the World War." Because no funds were appropriated for this work, the envisioned publication was never completed.

The State Historian relied on officially appointed local historians to collect and forward information relating to their communities' roles in the war. Only two-thirds of the state's

communities provided the requested information, and very few veterans from New York City are represented in the series. There are no files for veterans from Bronx County.

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Scope and Content Note

This series contains personal information, service data, newspaper clippings, and photographs of New York State veterans of World War I. Some accounts of home front activities in the state are also included. The series contains a small amount of material documenting the manner in which the State Education Department, the state's schools, faculty, and students contributed to the war effort.

Files from municipalities vary considerably in content, but each contains all or some of the following: list of soldiers from the community; service record forms for each veteran, usually providing name, address, place and date of birth, parents' names and address, date entered service, drafted or enlisted, military unit at entrance and discharge, brief outline of service giving duty stations, combat experience, wounds, and decorations received, and date, place, rank, and military unit at discharge or death; narrative statements of individuals' war service by veterans or the local historian; newspaper clippings documenting the return of soldiers, commemorative celebrations, or other soldier-related activities; transcripts of original letters written by soldiers while in the service, some written from France; photographs of soldiers, most in uniform and identified; narrative written by the local historian describing home front activities in the community; transcripts of community newspaper articles concerning local home front activities; souvenir booklets or other items of memorabilia; transmittal correspondence between the state historian and the local historian; and information on nurses who served in the war.

Photographs in the series are primarily portraits of soldiers in uniform, taken either formally in studio settings or informally as private snapshots in home-like surroundings. Some are of the souvenir variety taken overseas. There are no scenes from the war front.

The final box of the series contains important material (correspondence, reports, lists, bulletins, pamphlets, books, and a few photographs) documenting New York State's contributions to the war. These materials provide information on: wartime activities of the state's schools, teachers, and pupils (including Liberty Loan campaigns, Red Cross and civilian relief work, conservation activities, and work for base hospitals); war service of college and university students; wartime activities, especially through the Bureau of Educational War Service, of the Regents and the Education Department, including specific projects of the Division of Archives and History, the State Museum, and the State Library; and the reorganization of New York State troops in the federal service, including transcribed extracts from military cables and communiques (May 1917-December 1918) on deployment and military actions of New York components of the American Expeditionary Force (the 77th, 42nd, 78th, and 27th Divisions).

Copies of several noteworthy works are also found with this material: a research paper, New York State "Boys" in the War: A Report of Impressions Gathered From Sorting and Reading

Soldiers' Letters of the World War During the Summers of 1934 and 1935, prepared for Alexander Flick using materials collected by the Division of Archives and History; a 1920 book, *The New York Hospital in France: Base Hospital No. 9, A.E.F.*, a historical diary of the New York Hospital Unit during its two years of active service in the war; and a 1920 booklet, *Army Ordnance: History of District Offices-New York*, a detailed account of the organization, activities, and production (including statistics) of the New York District of the Army Ordnance Department.

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Related Information

Related Material

A3166 Working Files for a Publication on New York in World War I, contains related records.

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Use of Records

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding access to or use of this series.

Alternate Formats AvailableAlternate Formats Available

Microfilm is available for use at the New York State Archives or through interlibrary loan.

Alternate Formats Available

Items Online

High resolution images of selected original documents in this series are available in State Archives Digital Collections.

The entire series is digitized (from microfilm) and is available to New York State residents for free on Ancestry.com New York. You must sign up for a free account to access these records without a paid subscription.

To learn how to create the free account, go to [How to Use Ancestry.com New York](#).

[World War I Veterans' Service Data, 1913-1919 on Ancestry.com](#)

[World War I veterans' service data and photographs, 1917-1939 in Digital Collections](#)

Administrative Information

Processing Information

This series was originally accessioned as old collection No. 412, accession -281.

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Access Terms

- New York (State)
- Pamphlets
- World War, 1914-1918--War work--New York (State)--Schools
- Military records
- Photographs
- Recruiting and enlistment
- Clippings (information artifacts)
- New York (State)--History
- Women in war
- Veterans--New York (State)
- Schools--New York (State)
- War and education
- World War, 1914-1918--Personal narratives
- Military history
- Documenting citizen participation
- War and society
- Liberty bonds
- Documenting military personnel
- Patriotism
- World War, 1914-1918--New York (State)
- United States. Army. American Expeditionary Forces. Division, 78th
- Sullivan, James
- United States. Army. American Expeditionary Forces. Division, 27th
- United States. Army. American Expeditionary Forces. Division, 77th
- United States. Army. American Expeditionary Forces. Division, 42nd
- University of the State of New York